$: Offtake in respect of M.P. includes offtake against drought relief, bifurcation of which is not available.

*: The figure for allocation of rice includes 298507 tonnes of paddy, which after husking would produce 2,00000 tonnes (approximately) of rice.

NOTE: The validity of the allocation for the year 2000-2001 was spread over the year 2001-2002. Hence offtake during the year 2001-2002 is inclusive of offtake against the same if any.

Corruption in FCI

3850. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether corruption is high in FCI as reported in the Economic Times dated the 15th January, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) the details of the corruption cases come to Government's notice during the last two years; and

(d) the action taken by Government in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The said news-item *inter alia* refers to alleged diversion of rice meant for export into the domestic market and bogus freight claims.

(c) and (d) 40 complaints of corruption have been received in the Department Food & Public Distribution 01.04.2000 and 31.03.2002, out of which, 8 cases have been disposed of and the remaining 32 cases are under various stages of investigation.